

# THE BLADE

*Our vision is to see lives changed through joyful worship, supportive relationships, faith formation, heartfelt service empowered by the mercy, grace, and love of Jesus Christ*

## September 2021

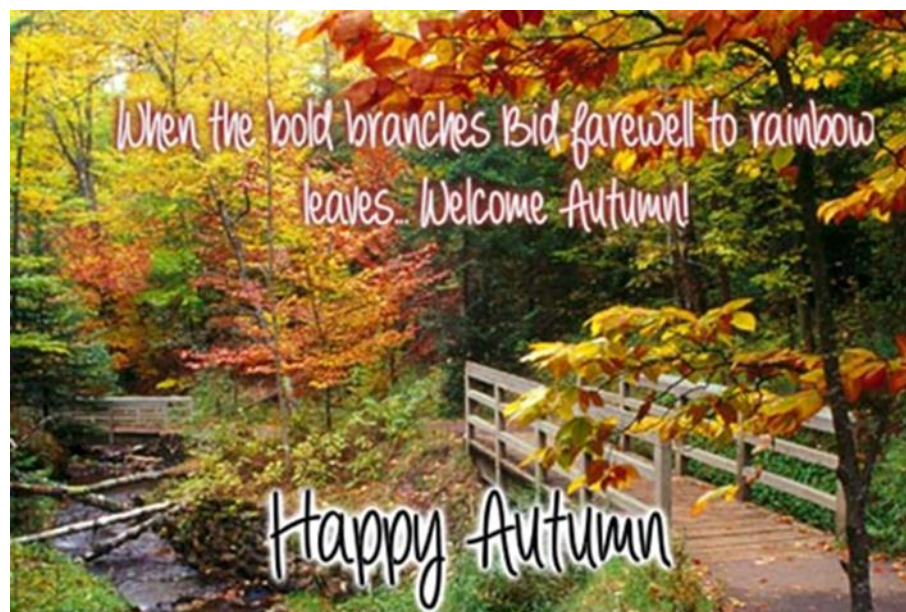
*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”*

*John 3:16 NRSV*



*To everything there is a  
season, and a time for  
every matter under  
heaven.*

Ecclliastes 3:1





## THE BLADE

### First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue  
Brookings, SD 57006  
(605) 692-2416  
[www.brookingspresbyterian.org](http://www.brookingspresbyterian.org)  
[presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net)

### Rev. Norlita Kaul

(248) 342-6190

[brookingsfpcpastor@gmail.com](mailto:brookingsfpcpastor@gmail.com)

In office at FPC 9:30 am-12:30 pm  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

### Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am – 2:30 pm

### Admin. Assistant

Rozanne McGrath  
[presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net)

For regular updates and  
photos, like us on  
Facebook



[www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings](http://www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings)

Please check the website  
[www.brookingspresbyterian.org](http://www.brookingspresbyterian.org) for the  
“Prison Lighthouse Ministry Newsletter”  
and “Susan’s Saga.”



Many thanks to our members and friends for your continued financial support. Offerings can still be made by sending a check to the church or to David Peterson.

\* Just for your information, the per capita per person for 2021 is \$34.78. If you have not done so, we would appreciate your donation.

David P - Treasurer



If you would like our team of prayer volunteers to pray for you or a loved one, please contact **Jan J** at 692-5325, **Lee P** at 692-7757, or the church office at 692-2416 who will contact the prayer volunteers. *(Your concern will not go beyond the prayer team unless you request it be shared with others)*

## ***Prayer Families***

Prayer is an important part of our life as a community of faith. We encourage you to pray for the people listed each week during your time of daily prayer.

**September 5:** Dave & Lucy B, Linda B, Bob B

**September 12:** Teri B, Don B, Barb B, Carey B, Lisa B

**September 19:** Chad & Diane B & family Tate & Trent,  
Jan B., LaVonne B.

**September 26:** Richard & Dolores C, Ginny C

1. Mission and Finance reports that the lease agreement for the copier will be renewed with Century Business. A new copier will be leased which will result in a smaller cost per copy to the church.
2. Buildings and Grounds committee is planning a walk-through inside and outside the church to assess any needed repairs in preparation for the winter months. Please contact a member of this committee if you have any suggestions.
3. Mike McCann and Terry Spitzenberger continue talks with the construction company about repairs to the damage to the parking lot due to construction on the jail.
4. Christian Education committee reports that Gayle Foster is finishing her confirmation classes and will be ready to meet with session on September 19th.
5. Worship committee reports that we will return to Communion administered the first week of each month beginning in September.
6. Session agreed to sign a covenant agreement with PCUSA Pension office for Healthy Pastors, Healthy Congregations program to complete final meeting requirements so that Pastor Norlita receives funds to help with seminary debt.
7. Congregational Town Hall meeting will be October 10th after the worship service with potluck! Please join us. Following this meeting, session will meet to discuss outcomes and plan the church year.
8. The nominating committee begins its work to identify two session members and two deacons for the upcoming year. Please pray about whether this is an opportunity for you to contribute to the work of this church.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Flint

The **Share the Warmth Program** is in gear again and is now accepting gently used and new children’s and adult coats, jackets, snow pants, hats, gloves, mittens, and boots. Items to share can be **dropped off September 1-15** at the **Best Choice Truck** located at **First Bank and Trust** (520 Sixth Street). Your donations are much appreciated—thank you for cleaning out your closets! This year the 1-day event to provide winter outerwear to area families in need is being organized by the Salvation Army. It is being held **at the Old Sanctuary in Brookings on September 29**. Volunteers are needed; for more information, please go to [www.stwbrookings.org](http://www.stwbrookings.org).

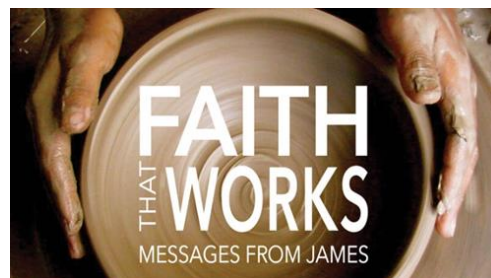


Nelda H, Harold & Marge P, Martin & Sally M, Rick & Bonnie S & Julie S—thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ by delivering 60+ Dining meals from August 30 through September 10!

Thank you for your donations to the **Food Pantry**; they continue to help those in need in our community! Donations can be delivered on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday, 9-4:30, to 217 4th Street. You can also leave donations at our Church and we will see that they get dropped off. Monetary gifts are accepted as well.

## Fall Series #1 A Faith That Works

Sept. 5	“Be Doers”	James 1:17 – 2:17
Sept. 12	“Body & Soul”	James 3:1-12
Sept. 19	“The Good Life”	James 3:13-4;3, 7-8a
Sept. 26	“Powerful Prayer”	James 5:13-20





The Christian Education Committee is preparing for the upcoming school year and we hope you will be involved! Sunday School begins Sunday, **September 12th**.

The youth will begin meeting for Sunday School after worship each Sunday- for the first four weeks of each month- for a brief lesson (20-30 minutes).

2nd, 3rd, or 4th week of each month until the end of the year. The kids will gather around 11:45 and meet for 20-30 minutes with you.

**I don't feel comfortable teaching by myself.** Let me correct my request- we are looking for four teachers or teacher teams willing to teach once a month. Get together with a friend or your spouse and share your faith with our youth!

**What if I need to miss one of my weeks?** We have substitutes available to fill in if something comes up for you. There also will be weeks that we don't have Sunday school because of holidays.

Using the PCUSA "Faith Questions" curriculum, you pick a topic about which you feel passionate (some ideas are Grace and Gratitude, Relationships, Understanding the Bible, Justice, Faith and Science, Money, Politics,....) and on your week each month, until the end of the year, choose something from the curriculum you would like to share with the students. The curriculum is written so that you can spend as much or as little time as you like preparing. Most important is for the students to have a chance to get to know you and to explore some important faith ideas with you.

**What happens at the end of the year?** We'll reset in January, you can stay on as a teacher, or pass the baton to another person. If you stay on, you can stay with your topic or pick a new one and start over!

If you are interested in being part of this teaching team and helping our youth grow in their faith, please contact a member of the CE committee or Pastor Norlita!

But wait, there are more opportunities!

For the months that have a fifth Sunday, instead of Sunday School, we'll plan a **special congregation-wide event**. Look for our first event in October!

The adult Sunday School class will meet as usual at 9:15 each Sunday morning before worship in the Center Meeting Room, using the Present Word curriculum. If you have missed getting together for Sunday School, or want to try adult Sunday School, come join us!

Finally, if you'd like to join the Christian Education Committee- we would love to have you! We meet as needed throughout the year, supporting the Christian Education of all ages!

Your partners in Christ, the CE Committee  
Mike McCann  
Robby Flint  
Bonnie Foster  
Donna Flint

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### **Sunday School resumes on September 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Adult Bible Study** will be led by Mike McCann and begins at 9:15 AM in the Center Meeting Room.

**Children's Sunday School** will be led by volunteers and starts at 11:45 AM for 20-30 minutes.



# News You Can Use

Two members of First Presbyterian Church are celebrating special 90+ birthdays in September. If you would like, please send birthday cards and best wishes to them.

September 8  
Marlys Kelsey



September 23  
Barb Borstad

**CHOIR AND BELL CHOIR** will be meeting. Stay tuned for information via e-mail.



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

TBA                      **Worship Committee** via **Zoom** at 7:00 PM  
Tuesday, Sept. 7:    **Mission/Finance** via **Zoom** at 6:30 PM  
Thursday, Sept. 9:   **Session Meeting** in **person** at 7:00 PM  
Sunday, Sept. 19:   **Called Session Meeting** after worship-Gayle F Confirmand  
Sunday, Sept. 26    **Installation & Ordination of Deacons**

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- TUESDAY MORNING COFFEE GROUP** 9:30ish AM at First Lutheran Mission Coffee House.
- PIECES AND PRAYERS** meet Tuesdays at 1:30 PM at the church to quilt. All are welcome!
- THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** at 9:30 AM in the FPC Center Meeting Room.

Once again, we will begin the "**Sisterhood**" gatherings **monthly**, starting on **Thursday, September 16, 2021**. We'll meet at the **Pizza Ranch @ 5:30 pm. Dutch Treat**. Please join us for a time of Food, Fellowship, and Great Conversation! If a ride is needed, please let Rev. Norlita know so arrangements can be made.



 **PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS**  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



**Offering collected**  
**September 5 – October 3**

25% of this Offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.



Synod School – what a wonderful week. “When the world looks at the church, is Christ looking back?” A question Jill Duffield asked as she led the morning convocations. If you would like to get a feel for Synod School and listen to Jill’s convocation messages and/or Samuel Son’s worship messages in the evenings you can find them at the Synod School website: [Synod School - Synod of Lakes and Prairies](https://lakesandprairies.org/engaging-leaders/synod-school/) (<https://lakesandprairies.org/engaging-leaders/synod-school/>).

I took classes in 1) the poetry anthology: *Joy* – the leader is one of my favorite lit professors; 2) perceptions of the devil throughout the ages; 3) Henri Nouwen’s writing on “creating space for strangers” – he’s one of my favorite authors; and 4) Shift Happens – moving ministry from yesterday to tomorrow. I had to give up gentle yoga and the latest PW bible study (led by a seminary classmate of mine) since they were the same time as my *Joy* class and I didn’t want to miss Scott Stanfield’s class. There were also classes in knitting, preparing (and eating) ribs, spiritual formation, pickleball, and many others – what a variety! Wednesday is always golf day – if you like that....

In the evenings I enjoyed music by the Stanfield family and open mic night. I had no idea the synod had so many talented people – especially poets. A favorite evening activity is tie-dying.

Think about attending Synod School with me next summer. There’s something to interest everyone. I’m sure you’d enjoy it!

by Linda Barnett



*A special thanks to the congregation for my Outstanding Senior Presbyterian Honor and the yellow rose and the cards I received for my birthday. I am blessed to be a member of this church. Everyone has been so kind and good to me.*

*Dorothy Williamson*

*Dear Members and Friends,  
Your love, support, kindness, and affection has meant much to me and my family as we celebrated together Dave’s Service to the Witness of the Resurrection for him on Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. The two words “Thank you” are inadequate, insufficient, and cannot fully convey my deep appreciation and heartfelt feelings in my soul for your love and help. God has blessed me richly in being called to serve as your interim pastor and shepherdess. My prayers continue for all of you and our church as we go forward together into God’s future yet unknown.*



*Peace and Blessings, Rev. Norlita*

**BROTHERHOOD**  
**September 2021**  
Andrew L'Amour



**Men's Brotherhood Notes:** MB met on August 19. We had a very good attendance with about 10 men in attendance. We had no program other than a discussion about preparing the meat for the lunch after the service in honor of Dave Robinson.

**Prayer/Action Concerns:** Pray for any and all of the victims of the recent Haiti disasters. Follow developments in aid responses to the area.

We live in a fairly isolated and safe place from many of the world's more extreme dangerous places. We do have our natural and uncommon disasters that affect many people. But then you look around the world there are places that are really in extreme suffering.

Take the recent earthquake in Haiti. The initial shock and aftershocks have killed at least 2200 people with the numbers likely still rising. This amid their other political turmoil of an assassinated president. And COVID issues. And Hurricanes. No wonder Haiti is considered the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. If you get any requests for donations from any international aid organizations, you likely have had one with a request for donations for Haiti.

I recently received one from the PC(USA) Missions. Following the teachings of Matthew 25 – Do unto others as you would have them do unto you, they encourage giving to mission projects like the recent earthquake disaster in Haiti.

You may have also received a postcard size notice from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). One Great Hour of sharing is a special way we can donate to this and similar causes. Special other one-time donations can also be given through: [presbyterianmission.org/give-haiti](http://presbyterianmission.org/give-haiti), or by phone (800)872-3283, or by check to Presbyterian Church (USA), P O Box 643700, Pittsburgh PA 15264-3700

Are there any actions we can take locally to stay informed on conditions in Haiti as they develop? Yes, we can keep up to date by following Presbyterian Disaster Assistance on FaceBook and on the PDA webpage through the PC(USA).

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**HY VEE**

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!**

Goal \$150,000.00

Received to Date: \$68,508.83

Needed to Date: \$81,491.17

Remember to bring in  
your Brookings Hy-Vee receipts.

We are looking for a team of people willing to help record HyVee receipts. The time commitment can be as much or as little as you like, and the church earns a \$1,000 for every \$150,000 of receipts! If interested, the process is pretty easy and there are only two requirements: 1. you must have a computer with internet and 2. you must have or be willing to set up a free google account.

Please contact the church office if you are willing to join the team. Once we have a group, we will arrange a time to help you set up your google account if needed and to train you on how to enter the HyVee receipts. Many hands make light work, so let's work together!



**The Scouts Troop 14**

will not be meeting until safety guidelines are decided upon.

## Revelings for September 2021

### *Philippians 2:1-11 Imitating Christ's Humility*

1 If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, 2 make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*(Dakota Nature Park, Brookings SD)*



As we now begin to gaze upon the landscape telling us that Fall is upon us, we can see and should confess the Holy Spirit's work that is found in Jesus our Lord, also found in the beauty of the landscape. Fall's show always speaks of the Glory of God.

We continue our series on "Equipping for Ministry in the 21st Century" with Lesson 2: The Revelation of the Mind of Christ, from the Layman (Winter 2014).

"In Jesus we see that the ultimate and moment-by-moment goal of life is to please

the Father. This is the mind of Christ." Jesus says in John 8:29, "I always do what pleases Him."...Jesus' mind is like no other. It is singularly focused not on self-gratification but on the Father's glorification. It is God's intention that we think like Jesus. So, do we think like that?...The intimacy of Jesus' relationship to the Father was so rich that pleasing the Father and living in relationship with the Father was the goal of life. Reflection questions: 1) Read Philippians 2:1--1. What does this passage reveal about the mind of Christ? 2) Is my every thought captive to Him? Is my thinking conformed to his? 3) Romans 12:1-2 "The New Life in Christ" 1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. Study the life of Paul and see him as a demonstration of the mind of Christ revealed in Jesus."

If we can take a few moments to enjoy a walk or a drive, to see the Fall's beautiful show all around us, it can provide some time for reflection and contemplation of how we can renew our minds. It can help us to focus not on ourselves, or our own gratification, but on God's glorification, just as was aforementioned. May we always strive to live out our lives to not be conformed to this world, but always discern the will of God and think like Jesus each day. Enjoy the view and the journey my friends! Soli Deo Gloria, Rev. Norlita





# September 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Please pray for the families left behind and the 1 <sup>st</sup> Responders on Sept. 11 <sup>th</sup> -- 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Twin Towers (NYC) Bombing			1 BIRTHDAY: Allison M	2 9:30 Bible Study	3	4  ANNIVERSARY: Tom & Jeannie M
5 10:30 Worship Service with Communion in sanctuary and via Zoom  ANNIVERSARY: Dick & Judy S	6 	7 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces & Prayers <b>6:30 M/F Meeting via Zoom</b>  BIRTHDAY: Chelsea B	8	9 9:30 Bible Study  <b>7:00 Session Meeting in person at FPC</b>	10	11 <b>20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Twin Towers (NYC) Bombing</b>
12 <b>Sunday School begins</b> 9:15-Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship Service in sanctuary and via Zoom 11:45 Sunday School	13	14 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces & Prayers  BIRTHDAY: Arlyce T	15 <b>BLADE Articles Due</b>	16 9:30 Bible Study  <b>5:30 Men's Brotherhood</b> <b>5:30 Sisterhood at Pizza Ranch</b>  BIRTHDAY: Susan S	17	18
19 9:15-Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship Service in sanctuary and via Zoom <b>(Called Session-Gayle F)</b> 11:45 Sunday School	20  BIRTHDAY: Jeannie M	21 30 Coffee Group  1:30 Pieces & Prayers	22  ANNIVERSARY: Art & Marge V	23 9:30 Bible Study  BIRTHDAY: Barb B	24	25
26 9:15-Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship Service in sanctuary and via Zoom <b>(Installation/Ordination of Deacons)</b> 11:45 Sunday School	27  BIRTHDAY: Ella L	28 9:30 Coffee Group  1:30 Pieces & Prayers  BIRTHDAY: Lynn R	29	30 9:30 Bible Study  BIRTHDAY: Emma M		

**WILD FLOWER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** at 4800 E 6th St, Sioux Falls will be celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> (26<sup>th</sup>) anniversary on Saturday, **September 11**, at 2:00 PM. All are invited to attend.



# The Blade

First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue

Brookings, SD 57006-2018



**Return Service Requested**

**Regular Sunday Schedule**

**September - May**

9:15 am Adult Bible Study  
10:30 am Worship Service  
11:45 am Sunday School

**Pastor's Office Hours**

**At FPC**

**Mon, Tues, Thurs**

9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Appointments also available  
as need/desired

**Church Office Hours**

**Monday -Thursday**

9:00 am – 2:30 am

**Pastor's Sabbath**

**Friday and Saturday**

(in emergencies, please call/text

Pastor's cell #)

Our newsletter is available electronically by email.

Please contact the church office at [presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net) or 605-692-2416, to notify us.